

Outdoor Recess Rules

To ensure student safety and maximum enjoyment, Crocker enforces the following rules during all recesses:

General Playground Expectations

1. At Crocker, we show respect to everyone.
2. Do your best to play fairly and honestly.
3. Students must respectfully follow the instructions of all adults.
4. When the bell rings, stop playing immediately, and take a knee.
5. If a ball rolls away from you after the bell rings, let it go. You or someone else may pick it up and put it away once the adult tells kids to return equipment to the cart.
6. You may line up after the adult in charge blows a whistle.
7. If you get hot and take off your sweatshirt or jacket, tie it around your waist. Leaving it on the playground is a good way to lose it, and it makes our yard messy.
8. Ask an adult for permission before leaving the playground for any reason other than to go to the restroom.
9. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
10. Play fighting/horseplay are not allowed.
11. Walk/run on the blacktop (not in the dirt around the trees).
12. Throw away trash if you see it.
13. Use the bathroom for its intended purpose, not to play.
14. Clean yourself and clean up after yourself in the bathroom.
15. Gymnastics (i.e. handstands, cartwheels, somersaults) may only be done on open mat areas that are not under any of the structures.
16. Close the gates if you notice they are open.
17. Food is eaten in the areas designated by your teachers.
18. Any staff member can cancel a game or ask specific students to step out if play becomes too rough or if students are not following the rules.
19. You may only use school equipment while playing on the yard.
20. Keep bodies and hands out of potters and non-paved areas.
21. Play in front of the storage shed in view of adults.
22. If you disagree with someone, try to compromise.



The Structure

1. Always go **DOWN** the slides, feet first, on your bottom.
2. Get down from the climbing structures without jumping.
3. Play tag outside of the structure areas.
4. You may not climb on top of any part of the structure.
5. 2nd-5th graders may skip up to one bar when swinging from bar to bar. K/1 students may not skip a bar.
6. If someone else is using an arm ladder, wait your turn.
7. The drums are for drumming, not sitting or standing on.
8. You must always have hands on the structure; you may not dangle by your legs.
9. Climb up the climbing wall, but not over or through it.



Ball Games

1. Only use school equipment - do not bring toys from home.
2. Baseballs, softballs, tennis balls, and lacrosse balls are prohibited. Students may use the school's whiffle balls instead.
3. If you have a ball at the end of recess, hold it still. When an adult says it is time, walk to return the equipment without bouncing or playing with it.
4. All students must be included in group games if they wish to play.
5. When you finish playing with a ball, return it to Coach's rack - do NOT just drop it on the playground and leave.
6. Notice where others are playing and adjust your play if needed for safety.
7. Do your best to play fairly and honestly.
8. Wall ball may only be played on the wall next to the water fountain (not on the portable).
9. Ask an adult to get a ball if it goes over the fence.



Hula Hoops, Jump Ropes, and Hippity Hops

1. Jump ropes may only be used for jumping rope in designated areas.
2. Chinese jump ropes may only go up to the waist.
3. Hula Hoops only go around yourself.
4. Hula hoops may be rolled to a friend in the hula hoop area.
5. Play with jump ropes and hula hoops in the designated area.
6. When you finish using a jump rope or hula hoop, leave it on the rack.
7. Hippity Hops are used only for hopping and are to be placed under your bottom.



Tag Games

1. Tag may only be played around the perimeter of the playground.
2. Tag people gently - two finger touch.
3. Everyone who wants to play gets to play.

Imagination Games

1. If someone asks to play your game, say yes.

Little Cars (K/1 Only)

1. Wait in line for your turn.
2. Take one lap with the car.
3. Stay seated on the car.
4. Go in the direction the teacher designates.

Chalk and Table Games

1. Keep the materials together.
2. Return the materials to the box after the coach's whistle blows.
3. Drawings/writing should be school-appropriate.
4. Handle materials appropriately (take care of them, don't throw them, etc.)

Amphitheater

1. The amphitheater may be used for eating snack or reading during 2nd-5th grade recesses.
2. K/1 students should never be in the amphitheater during recesses.
3. Students may not climb on top of the amphitheater.
4. If you are eating in the amphitheater, sit on the steps.

Student Council Recommendations

Suggestions from 5th Grade Sports Council 9/28/17

1. Add: **Students may not play in the amphitheater.**

Suggestions from 5th Grade Sports Council 9/28/17

Add a section called, “**Outdoor Lunch,**” and include

- a. **If tables are in the sun, groups of students may move them to the shade.**
- b. **Students must stay seated unless an adult has given permission to get up.**
- c. **Don’t throw food.**
- d. **Stay out of the bark/dirt area behind the picnic tables.**

Suggestions from 5th Grade Sports Council 9/28/17

2. You may **walk to line** after the adult in charge blows a whistle.
3. Keep your hands and feet to yourself **(except when playing tag)**.
4. Use the bathroom for its intended purpose, not to play **or hide**.
5. **Food may not be taken onto the playground. 4th and 5th grade eats snack in the amphitheater only.**
6. Add this: **Stay out of the planter boxes and the dirt area behind the picnic tables.**
7. Add this: **Refrain from standing on picnic tables.**
8. Add this: **If you disagree with someone, try to compromise.**
- 9.
10. Add: **Leave dirt and rocks on the ground.**
11. Add: Do not interfere with others’ games. If you want to play, you may do so after asking.

Suggestions from 5th Grade Sports Council 9/28/17

Add a statement that these rules apply to A.T. as well.

Add: One person may be going down each side of the slide at a time.

Add: Go down the slide on your bottom with your feet in front of you.

Add: Be aware of where others are so you don't bump into or kick anyone.